

A Closer Look at Youth Education Engagement Services



MCESA

Maricopa County Education Service Agency

“Engaging youth with a caring adult focused on connections to school, community, and family is our great hope in solving the youth disconnection crisis in our county.”

—Dr. Donald Covey, Maricopa County Superintendent of Schools

Challenge

Too Many Youth do not have a Relationship with a Caring Adult



Children in Arizona experience more trauma than any other state in the country. Results found 31%—nearly one-third—of Arizona children have dealt with two or more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE), significantly higher than the national average of 23%.

Educators know that children who come from more traumatic backgrounds tend to have more behavior and learning issues in school. The research around ACE has given us data that support our assumptions and experiences.

But there is hope! The research is clear that the negative impacts of childhood trauma can be positively impacted by a meaningful relationship with a caring adult.

MCESA and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors have

committed to supporting schools and youth. Support comes in the form of connecting youth to a caring adult thereby connecting them to their school community and a quality education.

The National Survey of Children's Health discovered the following in students between the ages of 12 and 14 with an ACE score of three or more:

- 41% exhibit high externalizing behavior
- 48% exhibit low engagement in school
- 38% have received calls home due to school behavior
- 21% have repeated a grade
- 44% do not stay calm and controlled
- 49% do not finish tasks
- 23% have been diagnosed with a learning disability

“The ACE study is probably the most important study you have never heard of.”

*—Marcia Stanton,
ACE Consortium*



Solution Overview

Services

MCESA will engage youth in their education by:

1. Providing professional learning around creating a supportive school culture.
2. Providing mentors for youth demonstrating evidence of school disengagement.
3. Supporting successful youth placement.



Supportive School Culture

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Overview

Recent research has uncovered that Arizona has a higher rate of adverse childhood experiences (ACE) than the national average.

Participants will...

1. Receive an overview of the Adverse Childhood Experience Study
2. Understand risk factors of the ACE score and its implications
3. Understand the impact of ACEs on children and identify protective factors

Trauma Informed Practice—Helping Traumatized Children Learn

One out of every four children attending school has been exposed to a traumatic event.

Participants will...

1. Understand some of the symptoms of trauma
2. Understand how trauma effects behaviors and learning
3. Learn strategies to support youth who have experienced trauma

Motivational Interviewing—Empowering Youth to Change Their Own Behavior

Motivational Interviewing is a powerful, evidence-based technique that facilitates lasting behavior change.

Participants will...

1. Receive an overview of Motivational Interviewing
2. Understand the process and strategies specific to working with students
3. Role-play practice using Motivational Interviewing strategies

Resilience— Filling Children’s Backpacks with the Tools and Support Needed to Overcome Adversity

Resilient children are more likely to overcome the effects of adverse childhood experiences.

Participants will develop strategies to build resilience in the classroom throughout the school campus.

More to come...

Delivery Option Trainer-of-Trainers

A trainer-of-trainer workshop builds a pool of instructors to facilitate professional learning. Trainer-of-trainer sessions prepare participants to present information effectively, respond to participant questions, and lead activities that reinforce learning.

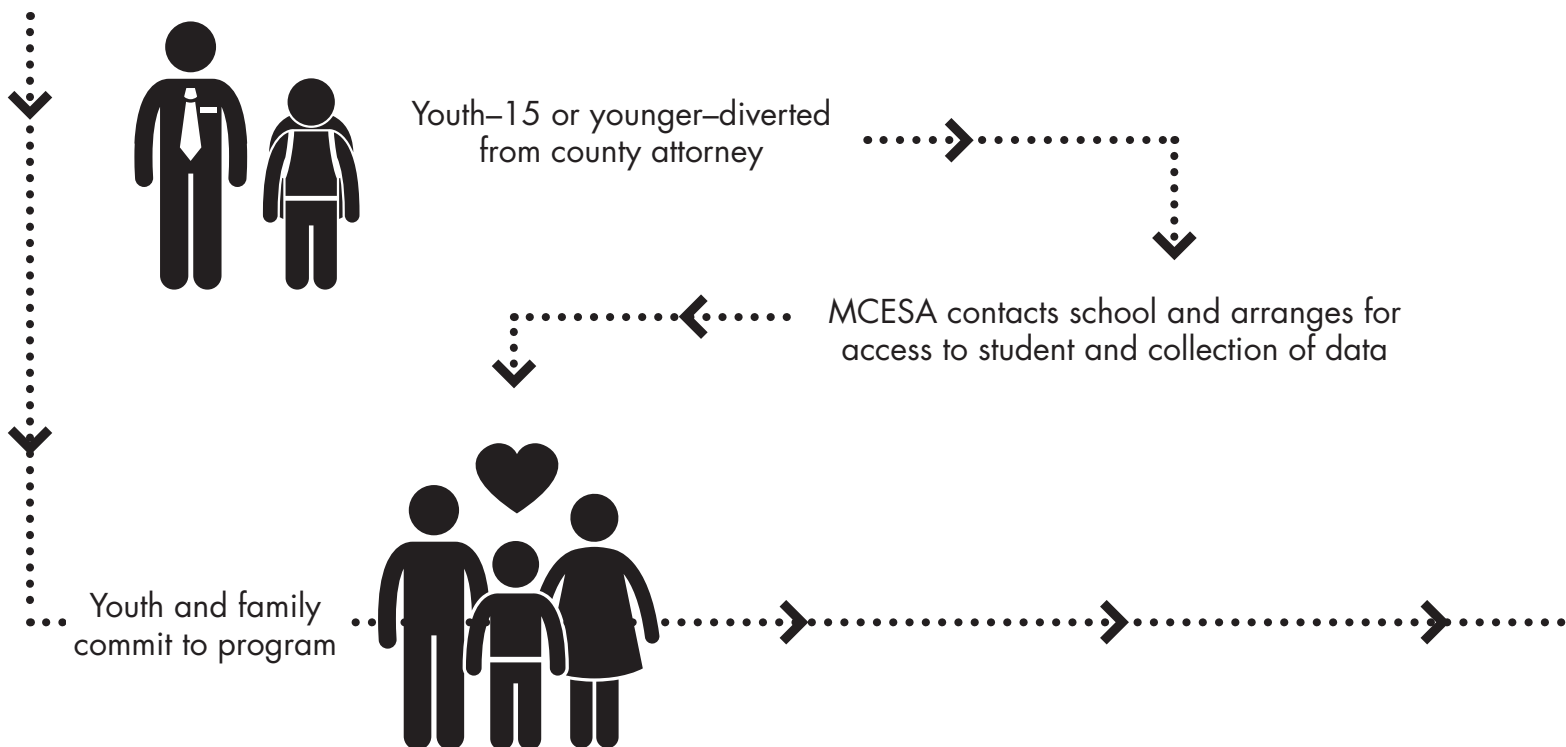


Youth Education Mentoring

Youth education mentoring services are provided to youth who meet the following criteria:

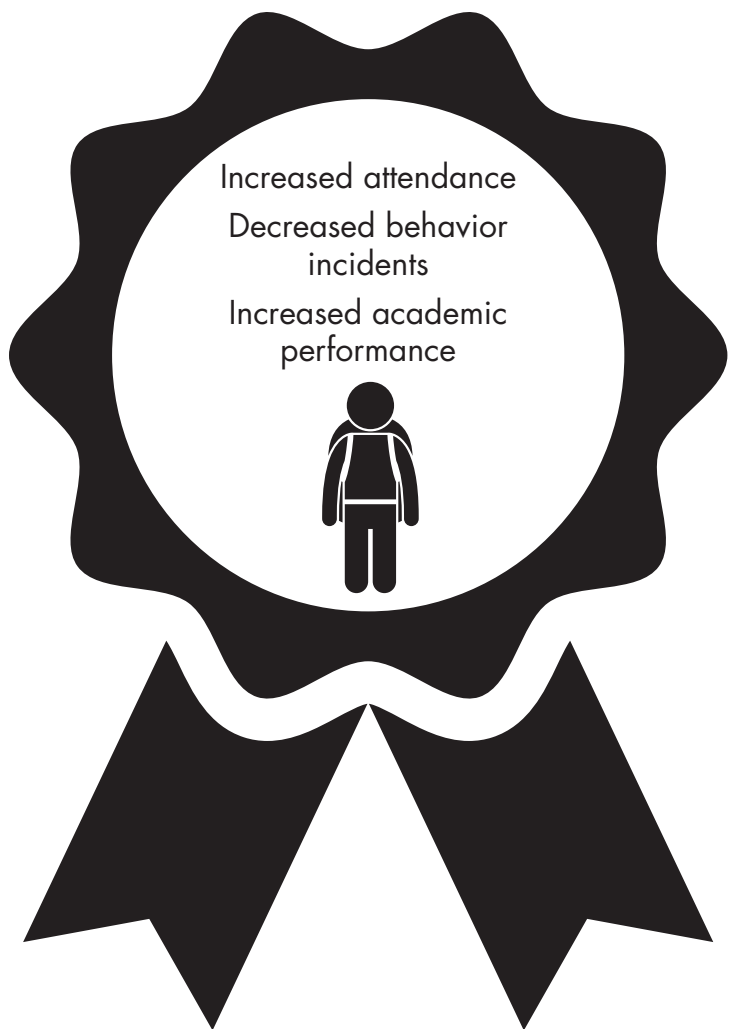
- Youth who demonstrate evidence of education disengagement.
- Youth, age 15 or younger (grades 6-9), that have been diverted from the justice system as authorized by the Maricopa County Attorney.
- Youth that have been identified as mid-to-high risk measured by the Arizona Youth Assessment System (AZYAS) Diversion tool.

Mentors Support The Student, Family And School

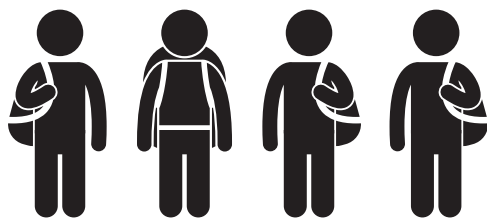


For information call (602) 372-7346 or email: mentor@mcesa.maricopa.gov





Mentors support youth attendance, behavior, and academic success



.....> *Weekly Check and Connect*

Mentors communicate weekly with the youth's teachers and family about progress
Mentors connect youth in school community

Check and Connect has been identified by U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, What Works Clearinghouse, September 21, 2006



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Maricopa County Education Service Agency (MCESA), under the direction of Maricopa County Superintendent of Schools, is dedicated to ensuring that all school-age children in the county graduate college- and career-ready. MCESA builds alliance partnerships that provide leadership, services and programs in the areas of Educational Innovation, Economic Management and Executive Leadership.